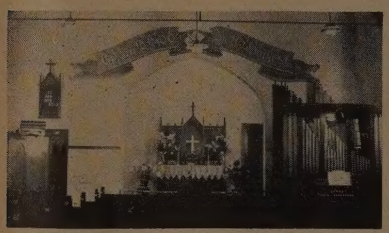
THE LUTHERAN Witness

Official Organ of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and Other States

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI *December 18, 1945* VOLUME LXIV - No. 26

Our Frontispiece shows the outdoor Christmas exhibit (crèche) of the Church of the Epiphany, Detroit (the Rev. E. T. Bernthal, pastor).

The view of Bethlehem Church, Brisbane, is familiar to some eight thousand of our service personnel who worshiped there during their stopover in Australia. The Rev. T. A. Reimers is pastor.



Brisbane, Australia, Church

The Lutheran Laymen's Leagues of southwestern Washington, *i. e.,* five of the seven local Lutheran Laymen's Leagues in the State, this fall met for another rally in Olympia. The Rev. M. Zagel of Calvary Lutheran Church, Portland, Oreg., in the Sunday afternoon meeting spoke on the topic "Development of Mission Work in the Local Parish." In the evening the laymen discussed the Sixth Chief Part of Luther's Catechism. The rally was well attended, and the men took a very active part in the discussions.

The Rev. Ingebrigt J. Bläkkan died at Los Angeles, Calif., on October 17 at the age of eighty-three. Unable to agree to the merger of the Norwegian Lutheran bodies, he, with the support of two other pastors, formed what is now the Norwegian Synod of the American Ev. Lutheran Church, one of the constituent bodies of the Synodical Conference of North America.

Our Ev. Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, Detroit, Mich., recently enrolled Josephine Markovich as its ninety-ninth pupil. To do so was possible only because she is a day student and lives at home. If the necessary housing facilities were available, two hundred or even more children would enroll at the school.

St. Paul's Congregation, Concordia, Mo., in its December voters' assembly ordered the distribution of an $1,800 bonus among its ten workers. The pastor received $600, and each of the four teachers $225. The rest was divided among the assistants and the caretakers of the school, the church building, and the cemetery.

St. John's Ev. Luth. Church, Burt, Iowa, recently received a full set of paraments in the four liturgical colors from one of its members, who desires to remain anonymous. Twice before, within the last few years, gifts for the beautification of the chancel were received in a similar way. The one was an illuminated cross, the other a hand-carved Communion rail.

Fifty-two per cent of the population of the United States, or 72,492,669, now hold membership in some church, according to figures quoted in the 1945 *Yearbook of the American Churches.* If the statement is correct, church membership has reached an all-time high in our country.

Missouri Synod congregations of Portland, Oreg., and vicinity met on Oct. 28 for a Reformation Service in the local Benson High School. The audience of approximately 2,000 heard Dr. O. P. Kretzmann of Valparaiso speak on the topic: "The Mission of Lutheranism During the Coming Atomic Age."

Members of St. Lorenz Ladies' Aid, Frankenmuth
Packing Christmas boxes for servicemen. They mailed out 115 boxes
C. B. S. PHOTO

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Mount Rainier, Md., in a special service on Oct. 21 commissioned Miss Dora Toepfer as parish worker. She is the fifth member of the staff of workers in the congregation, including the pastor and three Christian day school teachers. This active congregation was organized in 1935, dedicated its present church in 1937, and liquidated its $30,000 debt by 1942. In 1943 the church opened a mission in Greenbelt, Md., a Federal Housing project, and in 1944 in Landover Hills. At Hyattsville, a mile and a half from the church, the congregation is at present erecting a school building which will accommodate 250 children in six classrooms and provide seating for 600 people in its auditorium. The cost is approximately $80,000. The Rev. Edwin E. Pieplow, who was student vicar in this area in 1931, is the pastor of Trinity Church.

Miss Dora Toepfer

One of our Student Service Commission's publication elicited the following editorial comment in a recent issue of the Baptist *Watchman-Examiner:* "We have just been reading a brief pamphlet entitled *Lutherans Believe.* There is set forth in this expression and testimony extraordinarily clear views as to what Lutherans believe concerning all the great elements of the Christian faith and its practice. Lutherans do not intend the world to be in any doubt as to what they believe. This attitude on the part of Lutherans evokes our admiration. The world can get from their testimony convincing and affirming truth. How we wish it could be the same among our Baptist people. What a pity it is that we cannot unite in a confession of our faith so that the world can fully understand what we are and why."

Mr. Edward Krafft was commissioned as missionary-teacher in India on Nov. 11 at his home church, St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran at Melrose Park, Ill. He immediately left for his field. Mr. Krafft received his training at River Forest Teachers College and in the Mission Department of Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis. His wife, the daughter of Missionary George Schroeder of India, will continue her duties as Christian day school teacher at Melrose Park until the end of the school year, when she will join her husband abroad. G. V. S.

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THE LUTHERAN Witness

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Editorial Committee: THEODORE GRAEBNER; MARTIN S. SOMMER
Associate Editors: W. G. POLACK; G. V. SCHICK; R. R. CAEMMERER

Editorial

Christmas 1945

Christmas is here once more, Christmas in a year in which the whole world, emerging from the thraldom of a war that lasted almost six years, is finding it difficult to reconvert to normalcy. Yet even those who suffered most from the hardships and sorrows of the war will be able to celebrate Christmas in a more hopeful spirit than during the war years. But what is the true spirit in which the Feast of the Nativity should be observed? In festivities and lavish spending? In anticipation of a general restoration to the world of material things? Hardly.

The keynote of a fitting Christmas celebration is indicated in the Collect for Christmas Day. May our readers and all true Christians everywhere keep the feast in the spirit of this ancient prayer:

"Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that the new birth of Thine only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free, who are held in the old bondage under the yoke of sin; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen." W. G. P.

Have You Discovered the Bible?

In No. 21 of Vol. 218 of the *Saturday Evening Post,* Florence Muir tells an interesting story of an actor who discovered the Bible. Many of our readers will at once be reminded of the story which tells of Luther discovering the Bible in the university at Erfurt. The young man Luther, although brought up in the Church of that day, had never seen a Bible before; and when in the library of the university he found the Bible and read the story of Samuel, he was so fascinated by it that at once he prayed God to give him this Book so that he might have a Bible of his own. God heard that prayer. The Bible became the favorite study of Luther, and it made of Luther the great man which he became. God fulfilled His word "The entrance of Thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple," Ps. 119:130. Since then millions have found the Bible to be their greatest treasure, the pearl of great price, "the treasure hid in a field, the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field."

Have you discovered the great value of the Bible? Even some who read the Bible because they consider it their duty have never discovered the very precious value of the Bible. Not one of us should be satisfied until the Bible has gripped his heart, his very soul. True, we read the Bible, we study the Bible, and we listen to sermons on the Bible because it is our duty; but if we are true Christians, we also study and hear the Bible because from it we receive such rich blessings. We have learned to say with conviction of heart, "The Law of Thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver." Remember, the Bible teaches earthly things, and it teaches heavenly things. Even as godliness is profitable unto all things, so the Bible is profitable unto all things. Be sure to ask for God's blessing every time you read the Bible. A good prayer to pray each time when beginning to read the Bible is the following: "Open Thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy Law," Ps. 119:18. S.

Union or Unity?

"Pastors, it is up to you to get busy and settle this question once and for all, for we laymen want unity without argument." I am quoting from a letter addressed to one of our Lutheran weeklies by a layman. But it is evident that what this layman wants is not unity but union; he is not concerned with unity. He wants no "argument." What separates the churches is just the clergy arguing about "technical points." I wonder whether this layman realizes that his attitude is the greatest hindrance to union and puts it off indefinitely? The great mass of Lutheran laymen — and that goes for all synods — loves the saving Bible doctrines set forth in Luther's Catechism and prizes them above pearls and rubies. An intelligent layman also knows that there is more than "technical points" separating Lutherans from Lutherans and that there is no way to overcome these differences except by means of argument — friendly and fraternal argument, where the Word of God is accepted as authority.

There has lately come to this desk a little pamphlet entitled *The Old Northwest* and published in connection with last year's U. L. C. convention. This booklet contains a little article entitled "The Urge to Unity." The following sentences are worth reprinting:

"The summons goes out to our vision and faith, and the signs are propitious. The message of liberalism, falsely so-called, based on human goodness and nurtured in human pride, has disclosed its emptiness. Hard times and war can have good besides evil effects if they teach us that the remedy and solution belong to the Almighty. Trust in Him and obedience to His will, not human schemes, are the means of salvation. Many have seen this, and many voices are proclaiming it. This sharp turn in the direction of theological thought is our opportunity.

"May we meet this hour with a more and more united front. Great strides have been made in the last generation toward Lutheran unity. Laboring here these years where more bodies of Lutherans are centered than anywhere else in the world, it is heartening to see the goal of a united Church ever more and more clearly envisioned and held up."

"Above all let it be a Church true to the ancient faith

in Him without whom there can be no light, life, or good in the world."

The words are those of Pres. Paul H. Roth of Northwestern Theological Seminary.

Let such a spirit become predominant, and who shall say that both unity and union are not a justified hope?

G.

What of the Future?

The picture is certainly terrifying. Read Dr. Behnken's letter in this number of the WITNESS. What he writes in describing conditions in those German cities makes us shudder. If we then remember that any number of countries are in even worse plight, if we recall what happened to Poland, to Finland, to Greece, to Italy, to the Balkans and the Baltic States, we dread to think of the approaching winter. Nor is the thought that Russia is now in control of most of Europe without its alarming aspects. Even the tyrannical rule of Franco in Spain and the conflicts between Arabs and Jews seeking a home in Palestine produce additional disquiet. The very atomic bomb which aided us in gaining our victory over Japan has filled many with fear of the future.

Where is the silver lining of this dark cloud? The unbeliever can find none. If ever it was true, it is true today that men's hearts are failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. But we Christians have God's promises. We can still pray the 121st Psalm and sing Luther's hymn of the Reformation. Even now our representatives are in Europe to organize agencies of mercy and relief. Who would not thank God for an opportunity to help those poor homeless children of Europe? God is certainly showing us that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Here again we may see what a blessed work our Church is carrying on. Do not wait to be urged to participate in this work of rescue, but press forward to aid the unfortunate.

S.

The Danger of "Big" Words

Some of our newspapers carry columns devoted to the meaning, spelling, and pronunciation of certain English words. There is good reason for such a column. Because of our connection with foreign countries through the Army, through travelers, through diplomacy, through news also, new words enter the language. Moreover, in order to express some ideas clearly, the English language has borrowed terms from any number of ancient and modern languages. By using such words which are not well understood one may easily be deceived or deceive others. Our humorists often ridicule those who employ these words, mispronounce them, or use them in a wrong sense. We speak of it in order to warn our people against those who would confuse them by the use of strange words and expressions. Those who would deceive the hearts of the simple love to express themselves in "good words and fair speeches," Rom. 16:18. We should certainly not use expressions concerning the meaning of which we are not clear. Nor are we to allow anyone to fluster or confuse us by such unusual expressions and big-sounding terms. In every business, trade, or profession there are technical terms which someone who is at home in these spheres of activity can easily explain to us. Above all things, let us be sure that we understand correctly the expressions used by the Bible concerning God and His works, our faith, and our duties. Good instruction in the fundamentals of our religion will do much to put us at ease both in our hearing and speaking of those important matters which concern our welfare for time and eternity. That also is a reason for giving our children the advantage of sound religious instruction. In this way we protect them against deceivers.

S.

Mere Formality in Religion

Mere formality in religion is a mere outward observance of religious rites and ceremonies, a mere outward display of Christianity, while at the same time the heart is not right with God, but is without true piety. Such a religion is an abomination to the Lord. The children of Israel in the Old Testament at a certain time, and the Pharisees in the New Testament, were guilty of such hypocrisy. Perhaps the best description of such mere outward compliance in religion is given by Isaiah. The Children of Israel were known for scrupulously observing the religious rites and ceremonies. They were in attendance at the Temple, they brought their sacrifices, they observed the new moons and sabbaths, they spread forth their hands supposedly in prayer, but they were people of whom the Lord said, as He did of the Pharisees, "This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth and honoreth Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me," Matt. 15:8.

We, too, must be warned against such outward or artificial piety, hypocritical devoutness, a mere outward show of sanctity. Someone has well said, "Those with little or no faith on the inside often have much religion on the outside." True, we should attend church, we should lift up our hands in prayer, we should be engaged in work of charity, we should let our light shine in a godly life before men. But all this we should do not for mere outward display, not in hypocritical piety, but as coming from a heart that is right with God by faith in the Savior and that is filled with love to the Lord and to one's neighbor. Only then has that which we do the Lord's approval. "To this man will I look," says the Lord, "even to him that is poor [admitting his own unworthiness] and of a contrite heart, and trembleth at My Word," Is. 66:2.

J. H. C. F.

Indispensable

At Plymouth, Wisconsin, St. John's Congregation recently decided to retain the services of the office secretary. The services of the young lady in this position were considered "indispensable to the congregation."

We applaud the action of the Plymouth congregation and subscribe to the judgment quoted. A good secretary is indeed "indispensable to the congregation."

Much of the work of these assistants is evident in the letters and parish papers which cross this desk. We note their careful workmanship in the typing of a letter and in the mimeographing of the congregational Sunday bulletin. Sometimes there is evidence of special effort to make the work fruitful and appealing, as when artistic drawings are supplied to the mimeographed sheets and when a tabulation is so typed as to make its meaning clear to the average member without business training.

There is hardly a self-sustaining congregation that would not find the salary of a good secretary a profitable investment. We sometimes wonder whether even a promising missionary parish should not be subsidized in order to give the pastor this assistance and thus make him free for additional canvassing, for private study, and for the composition of sermons.

And why not a Secretaries' Guild in our larger Lutheran centers, where experiences and techniques are exchanged for mutual enlightenment and for the improvement of the art?

G.

Nation-Wide Expansion Program for Missions

Home Mission Board Adopts Far-Reaching Plans

Each One Reach One!"

"One hundred thousand the hundredth year!"

"Our greatest mission field — our existing self-supporting congregations!"

Harry E. Olsen
Chairman
Board of
Home Missions

"Our chief concern, our most promising missionary prospect, the adult without church connections!"

"Wanted — a nation-wide missionary policy based on cooperation of District and congregation!"

"If we had the spirit of the fathers, who even in 1857 discussed the need of English Missions, harnessed up with the enthusiasm and resources of our congregations, a hundred thousand new communicants in our hundredth year would not look like a wild scheme."

These were some of the sentiments developed during a rally of missionary executives held at Detroit, Nov. 27 and 28, in the parish house of Iroquois Avenue Christ Church. The Board of Home Missions of North America, composed by Dr. F. C. Streufert, Executive Secretary of Missions of the Missouri Synod; Pastors Herman Mayer of Bay City; W. H. Storm of Cleveland, Ohio; Ed. Buchheimer, E. T. Bernthal, and Harry E. Olsen, and Messrs. F. Korneffel, George A. Gritis, and Elmer W. Engel, of Detroit, had called in for the formulation of a comprehensive expansion program the following: Pastors Louis H. Henze of Bayside, N. Y.; H. G. Hartner of Denver, Colo.; John E. Herrmann of Winfield, Kans.; J. L. Summers of Charlotte, N. C.; E. L. Roschke of St. Louis; Richard Jesse and F. A. Hertwig of Detroit; H. W. Gockel of St. Louis; Armin Schroeder, statistician; Vice-President Herman Harms; Dr. Theodore Graebner; Prof. Otto Theiss; and Martin A. Salvner of Saginaw, member of Synod's Board of Directors.

A paper was read by Secretary Streufert in which the need of increased layman evangelism, of a restudy of every mission field in the U. S., of organizing the work in its regional and District aspects, and the urgent need of harnessing to some special tasks lay enthusiasm for missions were emphasized. In the minds of all present stood forth the undeniable fact that the postwar era contains a great challenge for private and corporate, congregational and synodical, planning of missionary endeavor.

"The laymen are crowding our leaders," was the way Secretary Herrmann of Kansas summed it up.

The Rev. E. T. Bernthal directed attention to the existing self-sustaining congregations as "our most promising field."

Enlightening tabulations were submitted by Statistician Schroeder.

Acting upon suggestions of the Board, a plan was adopted which calls for *an intensive, systematic, progressive, nation-wide Home Mission Expansion Program* which will carry the Gospel to every city, town, and hamlet in North America. It was proposed that every city, hamlet, and rural area in the country be surveyed in order to establish the relative importance of the fields surveyed within any one District and of the mission fields of all other Districts.

Tracts and other literature are to be provided which will offer suggestions for preaching, tent and trailer missions, for student field work, and suggestions to women and youth organizations.

Meetings are to be held, covering every synodical area in the United States and in Canada, to hear reports on unmet opportunities in Districts, practical suggestions on various phases of mission activities, on preaching missions, on the use of the trailer equipment, on institutional missions, on student service work in non-synodical institutions of learning, on student field work.

All this work is to be done under the guidance, direction, and supervision of the respective District Home Mission Boards and the respective District officials.

The plans submitted at this meeting in Detroit will, with the help of God, develop into notable achievement. Visitors and observers were impressed with the high spirit of obligation actuating our Home Mission Board. Its members recognize the opportunities presented and also the growth of missionary consciousness among our people. Only words of encouragement were heard from the District representatives present. The conviction was expressed that the Call of the Cross movement, 1940, has left a splendid deposit of mission-mindedness among our people, which, together with a favorable financial condition, should in the era now before us result in great things for the expansion of our work.

Expect great things from God!
Dare great things for God! G.

Board of Home Missions in North America

Seated, l. to r.: Mr. G. A. Grits, the Rev. H. A. Mayer, Secretary F. C. Streufert, the Rev. Harry E. Olsen, Mr. E. W. Engel.
Standing: Mr. F. Korneffel, the Rev. E. H. Buchheimer, and the Rev. W. H. Storm

To Save Christian Civilization in Europe

The Demand Is for a Change in National Policy

(EDITORIAL NOTE. — The writer of this article is Mr. Robert Root, secretary of the Department of Reconstruction and Interchurch Aid of the World Council of Churches, being organized with headquarters at Geneva. The story has been approved by Dr. Behnken. Two of the photographs have been supplied by Mr. Root, the third by Religious News Service.)

Missouri Lutheran Synod leaders, arriving from Germany, met with the Reconstruction Department of the World Council of Churches today to discuss immediate steps to bring relief to Central Europe.

J. W. Behnken, Synod President, urged that a congress of religious leaders be called in America to call President Truman's attention to great needs. He said Catholics should be included in the meeting. Inclusion of Jewish bodies was also discussed.

Council leaders welcomed co-operation of the Synod, which is not a World Council member, in its program of rousing American opinion, already under way several weeks. The Council asked that efforts be co-ordinated with the visit of the Oxnam (Federal Council) delegation, and this was agreed.

"Whatever is done must be done as a unit," said Dr. L. Meyer of St. Louis.

Dr. Behnken declared that if Americans realized twelve to sixteen millions are roaming Germany homeless, they would "rise up and do something so they'll not have to starve and freeze to death this winter."

He pictured fifty to sixty million American church members unitedly demanding to do a charitable work and refusing to be blocked.

The meeting agreed at least ten million wanderers in Germany are so-called German nationals who are technically not displaced persons and therefore not getting aid from UNRRA. Dr. Cavert said army expects two million new German refugees in American Zone this winter. Dr. Meyer declared occupation principles which would starve such people are unchristian and undemocratic. Dr. Behnken said many American occupation soldiers want a change in policy, but they can only carry out policy formed at home. He quoted Eisenhower as telling him that future is hopeless unless all peoples are cleansed of greed and self-interest. He said that two Lutheran pastors appealed to him in Frankfurt for aid in gathering congregations. Because of government changes, they had been successively Russian, Polish, and German, and were uprooted from Poland because of nationality. These cases can be duplicated many times, he said.

Three Missourians at Geneva

L. to r.: J. W. Behnken, president; Major A. A. Katt, chaplain, who was at Pearl Harbor in 1941 and is now with the headquarters command in Frankfurt, Germany; and L. Meyer. The picture is taken before the headquarters of the World Council of Churches at Geneva

Committee for Home Mission Expansion Program, Detroit, Nov. 28 and 29 (See previous page)

L. to r., seated: Mr. F. Korneffel, the Rev. F. A. Hertwig, Vice-Pres. Harms, Secretary F. C. Streufert, Prof. Theodore Graebner, the Rev. Harry E. Olsen, the Rev. H. A. Mayer, the Rev. E. L. Roschke. Standing, l. to r.: Mr. E. W. Engel, the Rev. J. E. Herrmann, Mr. G. A. Grits, the Rev. H. G. Hartner, the Rev. R. Jesse, Statistician Armin Schroeder, the Rev. H. W. Gockel, the Rev. J. L. Summers, the Rev. E. H. Buchheimer, the Rev. L. H. Henze, and the Rev. W. H. Storm

Steward Herman, referring to the Potsdam agreement that Germany should not be fed until occupied countries had equal food standards, questioned whether Germany is not already on low enough comparable standard to be fed.

Cockburn, who chaired meeting, said appeal must be to aid Dutch, Finns, and all Germany's neighbors too. He declared such an effort is necessary to "save Western civilization, which is in greater danger than ever before."

ROBERT ROOT
Nov. 14, 1945

Viewing the Evidence
Dr. J. W. Behnken looks over published photographs of misery in Germany with S. C. Michelfelder (A. L. C.), American representative of the Lutheran World Convention and head of the new Material Aid Division of the World Council of Churches

For Christ and Humanity

Our Church in Service to a World Stricken by War

SHALL LUTHERANISM IN GERMANY BE SAVED?

Berlin in Retrospect

Yesterday noon we left Berlin — the city formerly so proud of its glory but now ashamed of its horrible appearance, the city with countless heaps of rubble and endless piles of debris, the city which furnishes evidence upon evidence of the shocking ravages of cruel war, which simply beggar description. Erstwhile proud Berlin is a mass of ruins. Across from the chancellory stood a huge statue of Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse. That statue has been ruined. As though symbolic of the effects of ruthless warfare, the large metal crown which formerly bedecked the statue's head now lies partly broken and ruined at the base of the statue.

Sadder by far than all the physical destruction is the evidence of immorality, the blackmarketing, etc., so rampant today though civilian (German) police and soldier guards are seen everywhere.

Still more pathetic is the haggard, hungry look on the faces of the civilian population. And after all, winter has merely begun. For civilians practically no coal is available. There is not enough food to provide sufficient for even a mininum caloric content, no homes and shelters into which to flee against the inclemencies of cold weather, and far too little clothing to keep the bodies warm. Refugees are crowding the cities and have no place to which to go. They are not welcome anywhere. One city after another must evacuate them by the thousands, and they trek along in an almost constant stream from one city to another. No wonder that it is commonly predicted that "millions will die this winter" or "people will die like flies."

In the face of such conditions a person feels no regret about departing from the city. A feeling of genuine relief comes over a person when you can get out on the highway and behold the quiet countryside or pass through some wooded section untouched by the cruel hand of ruthless warfare. That is exactly how I felt yesterday when we left Berlin.

The Ruins of Hannover

However, when we arrived in Hannover, we again saw the horrors of destruction. In fact, to us it seemed that this city suffered devastation as terrible as any which we have seen. Crumbled walls, gutted buildings, stare at you like ghosts of the night. Signs along the streets forbidding vehicles to enter. In other streets huge piles of rubbish blocking the way. Along one of those streets lined with debris, standing back a little from the street, stands Bethlehem Lutheran Church, seemingly miraculously spared. Everything around it has been ruined, and the church suffered only minor damage. A sign tells you that the pastor no longer lives near the church but a few blocks away from it at 10 Kokenstrasse. At that number you find the only habitable four-story building in that block. Everything else around this building is debris. We were directed to the second story of this building to look for the pastor, the Rev. J. Kirsten. We found his small room, which he shares with another man. His family he was compelled to take to the country about thirty miles away. Such living quarters for the pastor!

In Consultation at World Council Headquarters, Geneva
L. to r.: Samuel M. Cavert, general secretary of the Federal Council of Churches, Chaplain A. A. Katt, Dr. J. W. Behnken
RELIGIOUS NEWS PHOTO

Interview with Dr. Willkomm

I have run ahead of my story somewhat. I wanted to tell you that when I gave the German maid who had daily cleaned our quarters a few pieces of chocolate, she thanked profusely and assured me that she would save that for her little niece for Christmas and she said: *"Wir muessen jetzt schon anfangen, etwas fuer Weihnachten zu sparen."* Dr. Willkomm without any semblance of complaint but in a very calm manner said: *"Meine Frau und ich werden schwerlich den Winter durchleben"* ("My wife and I will hardly survive the winter").

The last statement indicates that I had a conference with Dr. Willkomm, the president of the Zehlendorf Seminary. He is approaching the age of seventy years. The years are telling on him. Though he is mentally alert, he has suffered physically. The seminary happens to be in the Russian Zone, about three or four blocks removed from the American line. You can well understand that he has not been getting even the very low caloric content allowed. Friends have been providing some juices, chocolate, etc., but, of course, in very limited quantities. Mrs. Willkomm is also well advanced in years and is not well. Fortunately they have a daughter who works at the *Buergermeister's* office and helps at home. — The seminary is demolished with the exception of one building, which might be repaired. (I did not see it, for I met Dr. Willkomm right across the line. It would have been necessary for me to get clearance papers or else enter illegally. The latter I did not wish to do because we are traveling by special permission of our Government.) Whether or not repairs will be undertaken is doubtful. The Free Church men seem to feel that the seminary should be moved to another location. The library of the school as well as Dr. Willkomm's own library has been preserved, but is in the wrong zone.

At Berlin, I met Dr. Dibelius and had a conference of about an hour or better with him. He is one of the State Church leaders, the Bishop of Berlin. Unfortunately he is not much interested in Lutheranism. His hopes center in a larger Evangelical Church of Germany. He joined the Bishop of Chichister and the Greek or Russian Catholic Bishop recently in a so-called ecumenical service and is eager to arrange another such service. We left there rather disappointed.

New Free Church Contacts

The morning before we left Berlin, we met with some of the leaders of the Breslauer Synode at the home of Dr. Petersen, the president of the Free Church. These men are ready to fight and to die for Lutheranism. These men also know the men in the *Landeskirche*. They can tell you at once who is Lutheran and who is Reformed. Undoubtedly this meeting, to which I had invited them, and for which

The Sunday School of Luther-Tyndale Memorial Church, London, England
F. S. Janzow, Pastor

The traditional Christmas gifts of nuts and candy were made possible by Lutheran service men and women who, before returning to the U. S. and Canada, had saved up their own rations and left them for these children

they thanked me profusely, will result in negotiations to discuss not merely their present physical needs, but above all the doctrines of God's Word. They know that they are in agreement on practically all points. The pastors and congregations of the Breslau Synod, located in the eastern provinces, suffered terrifically. Some, perhaps many, of the congregations simply do not exist any more. They are putting forth heroic efforts to locate them and to serve them, and withal they are interested in keeping them with the Lutheran Church.

Before I leave the Berlin topic altogether, let me state that I had the pleasure of preaching on Nov. 4 to Dr. Petersen's congregation. These folks met in a hall of some *Gemeindehaus* near to their church. Their own church was bombed and cannot be used. For the congregation it seemed to be a real joy to have someone from America in their pulpit. Frau Heyland among others came with tears in her eyes to thank me for the sermon. Her husband is a Russian prisoner, likely in Moscow, and is probably being used because of his inventive genius. It was a rare privilege to preach a Reformation sermon in the land of the Reformation.

I believe I reported on our meeting with Dr. Wurm and with Dr. Meiser. The former is old, and much seemingly goes over his head. Dr. Meiser, however, is alert. He and his co-workers know definitely what is happening in Germany. They see through the effort of the World Council of Churches to unite the Lutherans and the Reformed elements. These men are very outspoken about the situation. They informed us that they know that the Reformed element is playing politics in the organization of the Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (E. K. I. D.). They know Karl Barth and read a statement he made in 1940, which is just as vicious as that of the gloomy Dean Inge. They want nothing to do with such a combination as may devour Lutheranism. Dr. Meiser said: "Since 1933 we lived in constant danger to be dragged down into the *Unionskirche*." Furthermore he pleaded: "Support and strengthen us to preserve Lutheranism! Help us in our distress!"

Dr. Petersen gave me a wonderful "Memorandum" addressed to all the Free Churches, especially the Breslau Synod, by Dr. Sasse of Erlangen. He wrote it on Reformation Day, 1944. He urges the Free Churches to fight for Lutheranism.

Is It the Death Knell?

There is no doubt in our minds that Lutheranism in Germany faces a fight for its very existence. Unless God gives grace, it will sound the death knell of the Lutheran Church in this country. *"Die lutherische Kirche steht vor ihrem Untergang."* Mighty forces are at work to exterminate it. Our aim is to return to Dr. Meiser and also to visit Dr. Sasse and Dr. Elert, of whom we hope that they will be true defenders of the Lutheran cause. We have offered these men, as far as we have seen them, Catechisms, Bible Histories, and other Christian literature. This offer has been joyfully received. Our purpose in returning to Dr. Meiser is to strengthen him in his fine intentions.

I am sure that everyone realizes that not every *Pfarrer* and every congregation in this great battle is 100 per cent Lutheran. The background of decades of liberalism, higher criticism, rationalism, at the theological schools which trained the clergy readily explains why this cannot be expected. It is a miracle of God that despite such training there are so many leaders who stand ready to fight for such principles as Back to Luther! Back to the Confessions! Back to the Bible! It is heartening and sounds hopeful to hear some of these men speak and to read what some of these men have written. Our fervent prayer is that God may continue to bless these men with wisdom and understanding, with courage and determination, for the fight which they are waging, and that He may graciously deign to grant victory to His cause in this critical and momentous battle for the truth.

The Need of Books

One of the greatest obstacles which we shall face in our efforts to help these people is the knotty problem of transportation. Even if books, etc., could be gotten to Bremen, there would still be the problem of transportation in Germany itself. The Nazis destroyed or blasted so many bridges, and now this wreckage clogs the rivers and streams which were formerly used for transportation purposes. According to statements of a two-star general these barriers in the waterways plus a shortage of freight cars, etc., account for the fact that cities can have practically no coal. The general made it very clear that the transportation of coal was his greatest concern. That must take priority. Then comes the transportation of food and clothing. You can understand, then, why the transportation of books and literature in general will present enormous difficulties. We have inquired about the possibilities of printing over here. There you run up against the paper shortage, and to import paper again presents transportation difficulties. However, we feel sure that in some manner God will provide a way for His Church to perform His work. We must pray and work that ways and means be found to send physical and spiritual relief to the millions who are starving spriritually and physically. May God have mercy upon these people and especially also the millions of displaced people!

Effort to Enter Poland

Before I close, I must inform you that, though we had Polish visas, we were told that the proper procedure would be to get clearance papers from the Russians. We made an effort, but could not come to an understanding with the Russian officer. After further consultation with our American officials it was found possible to go to Warsaw with an Army plane. Dr. Meyer ventured it. The plane made the flight, but on account of bad weather could not land in Warsaw. Dr. M. had a rather "wild" ride. He heard some things en route about difficulties to get out again after a person has gotten into Warsaw. Then I told him that it is not worth while to take a further risk; I felt that an honest effort had been made.

Next week we hope to go to Geneva to find out what the World Council of Churches is doing to carry out its relief program. We are especially eager to ascertain whether they will be successful in the solution of the transportation problem. Perhaps we shall discuss with them the advisability of arousing public opinion at home to formulate more humanitarian policies with regard to the dire needs of the ten million displaced people over here. *The policies are formed in America.* The Army and the Military Government merely carry out the policies. Surely something must be done to save some of these millions and to keep them from starving or freezing to death. May God move the hearts of men to do that which is pleasing unto Him!

We feel sure that you are remembering us in your prayers. In answer to these prayers God is guiding and protecting us and also opening doors for us.

J. W. BEHNKEN

Frankfurt, Germany, Nov. 8

Slovak Lutherans Convene

The thirty-first regular convention of the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church, a Synodical Conference body, was held Oct. 2—5 at Holy Trinity Church, Streator, Ill., the Rev. John Daniel, pastor.

In the opening service the Rev. George Majoros preached the sermon, and the Rev. Stephen M. Tuhy was the celebrant at the Holy Eucharist.

The Rev. Jos. Kucharik sounded the keynote of the convention and made a special plea for the war-stricken Lutherans in Slovakia.

President Andrew Daniel delivered his official address and rendered his biennial report on the state of the Church.

An essay on "Prayer Fellowship" (in Slovak), read by the Rev. Jos. Kolarik, was well received.

Seven services were held in addition to the devotions at the afternoon sessions. The Slovak chaplain was the Rev. John Prok, and the English, the Rev. J. G. Majoros. Among the speakers were the Revs. Stephen Tuhy, Sr., John Liptak, Chaplain John Dvorovy, J. Milan Kolarik, John Valentik, and Martin Cizmar.

The following were elected as leaders of the S. E. L. C. for the next two years: Rev. Andrew Daniel, President; Revs. Jos. Kucharik and George Majoros, Vice-Presidents; Rev. Paul Rafaj, Secretary; Rev. Stephen M. Tuhy, Assistant Secretary; Mr. John Chovan of Garfield, N. J., Treasurer; Rev. Michael Estok, Financial Secretary.

The highlight of the convention was the acceptance of a gift of $90,000 and a forty-acre tract of land from Andrew Duda, Sr., and his family in Slavia, Fla., for the founding of an orphans' home and old folks' home on property adjoining St. Luke's Church, of which the Rev. Stephen M. Tuhy is pastor. The board of directors of this haven of mercy consists of Mr. Andrew Duda, Jr., Rev. Jos. Kucharik, Rev. John Daniel, Mr. Stephen Toth, Mr. Martin Stanko, and the Rev. Stephen M. Tuhy.

Since the chair of the Slovak language was transferred from Fort Wayne to Saint Louis, the Board of Directors was instructed to purchase a home for Professor Dolak at the latter place.

A Slovak Lutheran Laymen's League is in the making. The Financial Secretary of the Church was voted a bonus of $500 and a monthly salary of $25 for his manifold labors. The American Bible Society was voted a gift of $100. Pastor Jos. Kucharik and family of Garfield, N. J., are donating 200 copies of the *Duchovna Citara*, a tune book of Lutheran chorales, compiled by Pastor Kucharik, to the churches in Slovakia. The gift is valued at $1,000. A committee is to study the possibility of creating fellowships for Slovak graduates of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

A full report on the work of the Synodical Conference was rendered by the Rev. Edwin L. Wilson, Executive Secretary of the Missionary Board. In America good results have been shown specially in the Northern States, but the greatest progress is recorded in Nigeria, Africa, where a number of new missionaries will be added to the force. The Slovak Church's share for this work is $2,223.68.

According to the report of the Financial Secretary, the Rev. M. Estok, the sum of $79,000 was received during the last two years for synodical and outside purposes.

At a memorial and thanksgiving service for peace the speakers were Chaplain John Dvorovy, Rev. John S. Bradac, and Rev. John A. Mihok.

The following five new members were received: Theodore A. Daniel, Jaroslav Vajda, Emil Lavcek, Martin L. Slovak, and Jos. Kucharik, Jr.

THE PRESS COMMITTEE
STEPHEN M. TUHY
JAROSLAV VAJDA

Pastors and Delegates Who Attended the 31st Regular Convention of the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church at Holy Trinity Church, Streator, Ill., October 2—5, 1945

Front row, from left to right: Rev. George P. Vojtko, Rev. John Kovac, Rev. Ernest J. Reguly, Student Jaroslav Pelikan, Jr., Rev. Samuel P. Mozolak, Rev. Jaroslav G. Majoros, Rev. Theodore A. Daniel, Rev. John J. Kucharik, Rev. Joseph D. Kucharik, Rev. Emil Lavcek, Rev. Martin L. Slovak, Rev. John A. Mihok, Rev. M. Dusan Marcis, Teacher Andrew Socha.

Second row: Rev. John Daniel (host pastor), Rev. Edwin L. Wilson (Negro Mission Board), Rev. John S. Bradac, Rev. Michael Estok, Rev. Paul Rafaj, Rev. George Majoros, Rev. Andrew Daniel (president, S. E. L. C.), Rev. Joseph Kucharik, Sr., Rev. Stephen Tuhy, Sr., Rev. Joseph Kolarik, Rev. Joseph Valo, Rev. Stephan G. Mazak, Rev. John Bajus Prof. George Dolak, M. A.

Third row: Andrew Sedory (guest), Rev. John Vrudny, Rev. John Prok, Rev. John Marcek, Andrew Lestock (del.), George Hanas (del.), George Marcis (del.), Rev. John M. Marcis, Rev. John Valentik, Rev. John Liptak, Rev. Bohuslav D. Tuhy, Rev. John Vajda, Rev. Andrew Bomba, Andrew Hankovsky (del.), Samuel Jurkovic (del.), Rev. Francis Machina, Rev. J. Milan Kolarik, Martin Zakovich (del.), Rev. Stephen M. Tuhy.

Top row: George E. Kaschak (del.), Paul Badonsky (del.), John Mazak, Sr. (del.), John Gajdos (del.), Michael Urban (del.), Andrew Dukles (del.), Martin Stanko (del.), Rev. Jaroslav J. Pelikan, Sr., Rev. John Daniel (Bethlehem), Rev. Joseph Fabry, Louis Rigan (del.), Emil Malina (del.), Rev. Andrew Hvizdak, John Fabry, Sr. (del.), Rev. Jaroslav J. Vajda. Total: 62.

Press Committee, S. E. L. C.

'Tis Holy Night

Tonight shall I be silent when above me
The heavens resound with glad seraphic strain?
Tonight shall I be songless when around me
Angelic voices sing the glad refrain:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Christ is born today.

Tonight — 'tis Holy Night — shall I not follow
The Christmas star, as in the days gone by
The eastern Magi humbly followed after
A blazing star set in the Syrian sky?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Christ is born today.

The star hung o'er a lowly stall, where oxen
And sheep, soft-eyed and meek, fed side by side —
Unmindful of the angels' tribute ringing
Above, on this the world's first Christmas-tide:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Christ is born today.

O Star, lead me to Jesus — to the manger
Where, cradled low, He sleeps the whole night long
In heavenly peace. — Far from the jangled discord
Of an entangled world I'll join the song:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Christ is born today.

St. Louis JOHN M. RUNGE

From a Pocket Notebook

Somebody sends us a blotter imprinted with the stalwart figure of Dick Siebert of the St. Louis Browns and his signature under the sentiment: "There are 17 million boys and girls in our country who do not attend Sunday school. Let's do something about it, fellows and girls." Another blotter with a fine picture of Mel Ott, manager of the Giants, and a similar appeal. Both are members of the Missouri Synod. . . . "It will not be necessary for me to enlarge upon the merits of the plan to have a District edition of the WITNESS, for it has now been in use in our midst for six years and is still being adopted by other Districts in ever-increasing numbers. May it suffice to say that it makes for an informed laity, which, in turn, produces ever greater zeal to carry on the work of the Lord in all the world." W. C. Bekemeyer, in Southern Illinois Supplement. . . . Reminding us that there is a big pile of new subscriptions at C. P. H. Stragglers may be disappointed, for there is still a paper shortage. The other day the presses had to stop for an hour awaiting a new supply. . . . At Sacramento the pastoral conference lately heard a paper on the subject "The Faithful Pastor's Wife" by Pastor W. Adam of Chicago Park, Calif. The wives of the pastors were invited to attend the session. A lively discussion, in which both pastors and wives participated, is reported. . . . A very good eight-page tract on the Roman Catholic marriage vow demanded of Lutherans has been published by the Yellowbank Conference of the Minnesota District. Send five cents to the Rev. R. P. Albrecht, White Rock, S. Dak., for a copy. . . . We have five white carnations left for 1945, and they go, respectively, to the Walther Leaguers of La Grange, Tex., who entered an attractive float in the local Armistice Day parade, bearing the slogan "Righteousness Exalteth a Nation"; to Organist Albert W. Grauer, who with the choirs of Immanuel Church at Danbury, Conn., gave an outstanding recital of Advent and Christmas music; to the Ladies' Mission Society at Oxford, Iowa, who remembered Pastor Grummer with a beautiful gold cross, to be worn while officiating, as a birthday gift; to St. Paul's, Fort Wayne, who on the 35th anniversary of his pastorate in this congregation presented the Rev. Paul F. Miller, LL. D., with a check for a thousand dollars and some other things; to the Herkimer, Kans., people who signally honored their pastor, the Rev. H. W. E. Buss, who departed for another field. Both Rev. and Mrs. Buss had done much for the Christian day school, both of them instructing when a teacher could not be found, and providing an adequate playground by giving up part of the land allotted to their use. An armful of orchids would better signalize our esteem for such service. . . . Readers who have been sufficiently favored by the folks who keep the mimeographs hot need hardly be told that a great deal of Confederate currency has been floating around our Synod in 1945. Our columns have given only a wee glimpse of the labors expended in this direction. Some readers have written angry letters after getting that snapshot of gremlins on one campus. One asks whether attributing the union resolutions of 1938 to a "big push" should not have been stigmatized as an outright falsehood (he used two stronger words), and others have remarked on the idea of sending such stuff for distribution among the students of some of the people accused of putting over the '38 resolutions on an unsuspecting Synod. Boys, *yo' hain't seen nothin'* yet! On another campus they

have distributed a pamphlet which tells the student body that in the Missouri Synod the fight is now on between the old faithful ones and those who deny that the Bible is the Word of God!! Anyone who knows Missouri at all knows that one who denies that the Bible is the Word of God would not stop to utter his blasphemy but would simply get out. . . . Someone who has just been over every part of the good old ship *Missouri* comes to this lookout post and reports that all is well. There is some bilge water, as you find it in old ships (she is almost a hundred years old), that has caused bad odors in some of the passages, but a little fresh air and sunlight will cure that condition. But the hull is sound; the engine has been kept in good repair; the rudder is eagerly responding to the wheel in the hands of the Pilot, who has, according to His promise, taken us safely and in good cheer through a year of turbulence in Church and State and who will guide the affairs of our Synod for the glory of His name and the salvation of many dearly bought souls also in 1946. G.

The Angels' Refrain

"All glory to God in the highest," they sang
When born was the Savior, the Christ, who is Lord;
From earth to the heavens the angels' hymn rang
And since is re-echoed with swelling accord,
As round the whole world the good tidings are heard
And hearts of men gladden, to praises are stirred.

"And peace upon earth," sang the heavenly host;
Christ came and atoned for the sins of all men,
Restored the blest sonship which Adam had lost,
And opened the portals of heaven again.
Now hearts may rejoice, haunting fears all must cease,
For God has been reconciled, Christ has made peace.

"Good will toward all men," thus did angels reveal
Why God gave His Only-begotten. 'Tis love,
Great love for mankind — oh, most wondrously real!
For sinners He sent His own Son from above,
That all divine blessings in Him should be theirs
And they should see God as His children and heirs.

Oh, let us, then, join in the angels' refrain
God's wonderful mercy and love to extol!
He loved also us, had His Son for us gain
Forgiveness and peace, and made heaven our goal. —
Join voices, and praise His good will toward our race,
In Christ we're again His beloved through grace!

Fort Wayne, Indiana ERNEST C. LEWERENZ

Anniversaries at Concordia Seminary

On December 7 our Seminary at St. Louis was privileged to celebrate the anniversaries of eight members of the faculty. At the usual chapel hour (9:30 A. M.) the faculty, members of the Board of Control, and the students gathered in the auditorium. After the singing of Hymn 489, Dr. Theo. Laetsch, the chapel speaker for the week, addressed the assembly on the basis of Jeremiah 3:15. "The Lyrics" rendered 'All Blessing, Honor, Thanks, and Praise" from the Wittenberg Songbook, 1529. The president of the Seminary thereupon extended the felicitations of the faculty and students.

Dr. J. T. Mueller, Dr. J. H. C. Fritz, Dr. M. S. Sommer

Twenty-five years ago on Dec. 2 three members of the faculty were inducted into their office in the same service. It is unusual that a theological seminary should welcome three members into its faculty on one occasion and still more unusual that the three should be privileged to celebrate together the silver anniversary of their service at the same institution.

The three are: *Dr. John H. C. Fritz* who, after pastorates in Southern Missouri, Brooklyn, and St. Louis, came to the Seminary as its first Dean of Men and five years ago accepted the call to the chair of Homiletics, *Dr. John Theodore Mueller,* who taught at Luther College, La., and Wittenberg, Wis., and held pastorates in Michigan and Illinois, and *Dr. Martin S. Sommer,* after a pastorate of twenty-eight years in Grace Church, St. Louis.

Five other members of the faculty have during this calendar year passed important milestones in their service to the Church and our Seminary. *Dr. Ludwig Fuerbringer* has experienced the rare distinction of having, by God's grace, passed the sixtieth anniversary of his ordination. *Dr. W. Gustave Polack* has completed twenty years of service as professor at the Seminary. *Dr. Theodore Hoyer* was ordained forty years ago and has now rounded out fifteen years of service at the Seminary. *Prof. Alfred M. Rehwinkel* has observed the thirty-fifth anniversary of his ordination. *Dr. Frederick E. Mayer* was ordained thirty years ago.

God blesses His Church with men who are to serve her in His divinely instituted office of the holy ministry. The Lord gave these teachers to our beloved Synod that it might have the blessing of the talents with which He endowed them and developed in them for the building of His kingdom among men.

During their years of service they have been privileged to aid in preparing many hundreds of young men for the holy ministry. By their valuable service on synodical boards and committees they have aided the work of building the Church of Christ at home and in missions throughout the world. By their books which have come from their pens and their articles in journals and church publications they have exerted a beneficial influence not only upon the clergy and laity of our own Synod, but also upon those in other church denominations.

Let us ever be grateful to the Lord for the gift of such men to the Church.

LOUIS J. SIECK, *President*

Ingathering at Lawton, Okla.

A class of 51 adults, including 16 soldiers from Fort Sill, was instructed in nine groups during the first half of 1945 and recently confirmed by the Rev. L. Heitfeld of Lawton, Okla. The record of the class to date: 23 belong to the armed forces, 9 were transferred to a sister congregation, and 6, ranging in age from 35 to 91, to the Church Triumphant. Pastor Heitfeld confirmed 405 people, mostly soldiers, during the past six years, some of Indian and Mexican blood. He writes: "What makes the work doubly joyful is the fact that some were plucked like a brand from the burning — the 70-year-old man who probably never entered a church since his Baptism in infancy; the 87-year-old man who had not darkened the church entrance for 41 years; the 91-year-old grandmother who had received no spiritual food for 22 years; and the 35-year-old man who had been a drifter for many years. All four entered the Church above soon after their Savior found them again, and they rejoiced in Him as their souls' salvation." K. K.

Immanuel Lutheran Conference

The sixty-second session of Immanuel Lutheran Conference convened at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Charlotte, N. C., August 16—19, 1945.

The conference opened with a Communion service, at which the keynote sermon was delivered by the Rev. J. E. Shufelt, president of the district. On the basis of 1 John 5:4 Pastor Shufelt discussed the subject "The Victory That Overcometh the World."

On Friday a paper was read by the Rev. C. Sabourin of New York City dealing with the future of the Negro in the Lutheran Church.

The educational address was delivered by Dr. Henry Nau, president of Immanuel Lutheran College, at the service on Friday night. Choosing the text Ex. 2:9, Dr. Nau discussed this subject: "Christian Education Is the Divinely Appointed Duty of Parents and of the Church."

On Saturday, a provocative paper was delivered by the Rev. M. Holsten of Concord, N. C., on the subject "The Spiritual Priesthood of Christians and Personal Mission Work."

Two services were held on Sunday as the conference was brought to a close. The message in the morning service was delivered by the Rev. W. O. Hill of Yonkers, N. Y. The closing service of the conference was held at the Second Ward High School Auditorium at 2 P. M. This was a special mission service, and the sermon was preached by the undersigned on Matt. 28:18-20.

The conference also adopted a resolution endorsing the establishment of a Lutheran Institute of Race Relations and a resolution to raise $1,000 during 1946 for Immanuel Lutheran College at Greensboro, N. C. O. T. SMALLWOOD

Part of the Membership Class Recently Added to St. John's, Lawton, Oklahoma

The Brazilian District Convention

Porto Alegre was host to the Lutheran Church of Brazil when, from Jan. 21 to 28, 69 pastors, 13 teachers, 36 delegates, and many visitors gathered there for the 26th convention of our District. Despite wartime difficulties the gathering was marked by a spirit of optimism and courage as it took stock both of the opportunities and responsibilities that lie ahead. In spite of the sometimes oppressive heat the convention goes down in history as being one of the most enjoyable and best attended of our Church under the Southern Cross.

Since the representative of the mother church, Dr. F. C. Streufert, could not arrive in time to attend and open the sessions, he designated the President of the District, the Rev. Rodolfo Hasse, to address the convention in its opening service. He based his words on Jesus' assurance: "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you." The opening day was brought to a fitting close with a special service recognizing the work which Dr. Paul Schelp has done in the Brazilian Church for many years as professor at our seminary and as editor of our Church periodicals. On this occasion he also received his diploma of Doctor of Divinity which the faculty of the St. Louis Seminary awarded this hard-working and faithful servant in recognition of his work in the Lord's vineyard.

In his opening address, on Monday, President Hasse appealed to the members of the convention, not only to acknowledge, but also to correct the mistakes of the past and to work with renewed zeal in the fields that the Lord has given them.

The chief essay was presented by Prof. L. C. Rehfeldt of the Porto Alegre Seminary on "The Church and the State," showing that Church and State are two distinct divine institutions with altogether different functions, in which the interests and the duties of the one do not interfere with those of the other.

The convention also recognized the existence of unity of faith between our Church and Pastors Dr. Walter Kunstmann and Paul Evers, establishing altar and pulpit fellowship with them. This union was confirmed through a hearty handshake between the President, the Rev. R. Hasse, and Dr. W. Kunstmann, whereupon the whole assembly arose to sing a song of praise to God.

The discussions stressed the importance of stewardship in Christian life, devotion to our parochial schools, supplying spiritual aid to our Christian men in the Army. District missionary matters were presented by the secretary of the Mission Board and several missionaries.

The convention also heard, with a great deal of satisfaction, that our congregations contributed more than Cr$100,000.00 during 1944 for the work of the Lord. The President's report showed a great deal of activity in the placement of workers, caused in part by the entrance of new candidates, in part also by transfers that had to be made on account of the abnormal situation through which we are passing here in Brazil.

The newly elected officers of the Brazil District for the next triennium are: President, Rev. Rodolfo Hasse; Vice-Presidents, Rev. Carlos H. Warth and Rev. Reinaldo Gueths; Secretaries, Rev. Jorge L. Miller and Rev. Evaldo Elicker; Treasurers, Prof L. C. Rehfeldt and Teacher F. Strelow; Mission Board, Rev. Ferdinand Otten, Rev. Carlos Mundel, Rev. Victor C. Lehenbauer, and Senhor Guilherme Goerl.

Live interest was also shown in the progress of our Brazilian Lutheran broadcast. Not only do we have a favorable contract with one of the Porto Alegre stations where the Word of God can be heard once a week, but we also have a contract with a station from Rio de Janeiro, where the Gospel of Christ is proclaimed twice monthly.

From the reports of the President of the District and of the Mission Board we learned that the number of our workers does not increase in proportion with the expansion of the missionary activities. Our Concordia Seminary in Porto Alegre has turned out more than one hundred candidates during the past thirty years, but that is not enough to supply all fields with the necessary pastors and teachers.

Our publishing house, *Casa Publicadora Concordia,* also presented its report and showed that, owing to the wise leadership of its directors, it had increased its sales since the year before.

The convention closed on Jan. 28 with a synodical service in the morning and a missionary service in the afternoon.

VICTOR C. LEHENBAUER

South and East Michigan Teachers Meet in Detroit

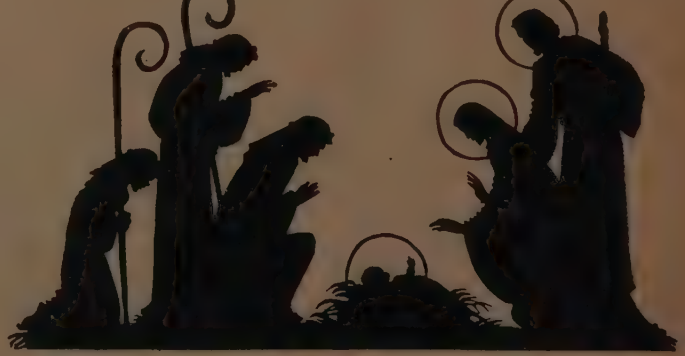
Talking to a group of 120 Lutheran teachers in a three-day conference, Oct. 24—26, at Peace Lutheran Church, Detroit, Prof. O. H. Theiss, Executive Secretary of the International Walther League, led a lively discussion on the subject of "Our Unfinished Symphony." It was a study of world conditions and current trends as they affect Church and School, with specific emphasis on the challenge in the field of Christian education.

Also on the program was Miss Kate Skinner, M. A., who discussed current trends and essentials in arithmetic. Mr. Earl Matthies and Mr. Ralph Nuechterlein reviewed several outstanding arithmetic texts of the present day. Visual aids were discussed by Mr. C. R. Crakes and Miss Norma Barts, Visual Aids Consultants of DeVry Film Corporation of Chicago. A classroom type demonstration was given based on a silent movie, "China."

R. L. HANSEN

Missionaries to the Deaf Meet

Ephphatha Conference of missionaries to the deaf met in the beautiful Pilgrim Chapel for Deaf in Kansas City, Mo., October 5—9. Of the twenty-three full-time pastors serving deaf from Coast to Coast and in Canada, twenty-one were in attendance. Two of these, Pastors O. C. Schroeder and C. Bremer, also serve the hearing blind. Since the sign language is the principal medium of bringing the saving Gospel of Jesus to the deaf, the greater part of the eight sessions was spent in finding the best and most effective way of signing God's Word. Also on the program was an exegetical paper on 1 Cor. 9. Six groups in the conference had worked out the forms for Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, Burial, and the Installation of Pastors, the object being to render them in language that can be read aloud and signed at the same time, so that deaf lipreaders and hearing people present may also understand. Mr. Stanley D.



Roth, superintendent of the Kansas School for Deaf, himself the son of deaf parents, gave an instructive lecture on the nature of the people to whom we minister.

On Sunday afternoon two services were held, the first a Holy Communion service conducted only in the sign language for the deaf members and the missionaries, the second for both deaf and hearing to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the beginning of the work in and around Kansas City.

In a special session on Monday evening the conference met with the Synodical Committee to discuss the matter pertaining to our mission work in the memorials to the convention in Saginaw.

Next year the conference hopes to meet in Chicago, where our Synod began this blessed work fifty years ago among the adult deaf.

St. Paul, Minn. R. F. CORDES

Curators and Archivists Meet

At the invitation of the Concordia Historical Institute the curators and archivists of the institute and of various districts of the Missouri Synod met at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., on Oct. 30. Prof. W. H. Luecke of Bronxville, N. Y., presided over the meeting, and the Rev. Henry C. Miller of Frankentrost, Mich., served as secretary.

The conference was opened with devotions led by the Rev. George Majoros of St. Louis, representative of the Slovak Ev. Lutheran Church. Dr. L. J. Sieck, president of Concordia Seminary, spoke words of welcome. Dr. W. G. Polack, president of Concordia Historical Institute, read a paper on "The History and Purpose of Concordia Historical Institute." Dr. Karl Kretzmann, curator of Concordia Historical Institute, presented an essay on "The Work of the Curator and the Necessary Contacts with District Archivists." The Mr. Roy A. Suelflow, assistant curator, spoke on "Indexing and Cataloging Historical Matters." Dr. Theodore Graebner, editor of the LUTHERAN WITNESS, had an essay on "The Church Paper's Interest in Historical News."

In a round-table discussion each archivist present related his experiences and the methods he has adopted of collecting historical materials for the archives. It was felt that most Districts of the Missouri Synod do not attach sufficient importance to the value of keeping records. As a result, material of great historical value is sometimes lost. To seek a remedy for this situation was one of the purposes of this meeting.

The conference closed with devotions led by Prof. R. Jesse, dean of Concordia Seminary.

Osseo, Wis. RONALD W. GOETSCH

Letters from Readers

"MISSION" CONGREGATIONS

Over and over again, especially in reports of various District synodical meetings, we read of "mission congregations." To my mind, the word "mission" is here misused.

Is not a *self-supporting* congregation, large or small, which year after year adds adults as well as children to its membership and otherwise grows in Christian faith and life more entitled to be called a "mission church" than is a *subsidized* congregation which year after year needs help from the District to pay its pastor and teacher their meager salaries and seldom shows any kind of growth on the statistical records?

Let's quit giving out a wrong impression of the word "mission"; call a spade a spade — list them as "subsidized congregations," not as "missions."

Perhaps the fact that our people have heard "mission" used in this sense so long, even has something to do with the sad truth that we are now sending and preparing only *tens* of foreign missionaries where we should have *hundreds*.

Detroit MRS. H. B.

APPALLING SITUATION

I note with joy and enthusiasm in your editorial "Hell Is Around the Corner" that you say that the money originally intended for use for our colleges and seminaries from the PTO will probably have to be used to help our brethren in devastated Europe. There is no question in my mind but that this would be the Christian way, and no one need think either that the colleges will not benefit most in the long run by the suggested procedure. Furthermore, I am sure that if the appalling situation in Europe is brought home to our people, nearly all will feel as I do about it.

Winfield, Kans. W. L. STEINER

The Christmas Bells

The Christmas bells ring loud and clear
Proclaiming Christ is born.
To every nation far and near
They sound a message of good cheer
To those who are forlorn.

The Christmas bells ring out for you,
Their notes will never cease
To tell the story old, yet new,
The Holy Child was born for you,
He brings good will and peace.

Brooklyn ADELINE RUSTERHOLZ

Obituary

All obituaries and death notices should be sent to Prof. W. G. Polack, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo.

The Rev. Walter E. Rohe (d. Nov. 1, 1945), born Oct. 24, 1887, at Crete, Ill., son of Herman Rohe and Marie, nee Behrens, attended Concordia College, Milwaukee, and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, graduating in 1913.

He served for eight years in Bartlett Township near Verndale, and Wadena, Aldrich, and Staples, Minn. From 1921 to 1927 he was pastor at Tyler, Wahpeton, and Fairmont, N. Dak., and from 1927 to 1930 at Ellendale, N. Dak., when he accepted the call to the Albany-Krain, Minn., parish.

On Jan. 7, 1945, he was installed in Popple Creek and Foley, Minn. In promoting a building project in both parishes, he was traveling to South Dakota to obtain some church furniture, when the vehicle in which he was a passenger was hit by another automobile, resulting in his instantaneous death.

He married Miss Anna Guetsko June 12, 1917. This union was blessed with four sons and three daughters. One of the sons, Herbert, is a missionary to the deaf in Pennsylvania, and another, Paul, has begun his first year at Concordia College, St. Paul.

Some forty-five pastors attended the funeral, which took place on Nov. 5, 1945, in the Popple Creek church. The Rev. Wm. Petzke addressed the mourners. Pastors J. A. Stein, H. J. Krieg, and J. Beck were liturgists. J. A. STEIN

The Rev. Paul Schroeder (d. Nov. 6, 1945), born in Milwaukee July 9, 1870, attended Concordia at Milwaukee, Northwestern College at Watertown, and graduated from the St. Louis Seminary in June, 1894. He served Lexington, Tex., for two years, then two Wisconsin Synod parishes, Hartland and Elroy, each consisting of three congregations. Returning to the Missouri Synod, he became pastor at Germania (three congregations) and finally, since 1918, of the two congregations in the town of Wausau. He celebrated his golden anniversary on Sept. 24, 1944, but was compelled to resign in April, 1945, on account of a heart ailment.

On Aug. 31, 1895, he was married to Emilie Baumann of Milwaukee, who preceded him in death in 1933. Surviving him are seven sons, three daughters, and twenty-one grandchildren. One of his sons, Walter, is pastor in Charter Oak, Iowa, another, Alfred, became his father's successor in the Wausau congregations.

At the funeral on Nov. 10 the undersigned spoke in the parsonage on Phil. 3: 20, 21, and officiated at the grave. In the church the Rev. J. F. Potratz spoke on Rom. 5: 1-2, the Rev. J. H. Nau on 1 Tim. 1: 15-16, and President W. L. Kohn on behalf of the North Wisconsin District. Six sons of the deceased acted as pallbearers. O. HATTSTAEDT, JR.

The Rev. Philip A. H. Ziemendorf (d. Nov. 17, 1945), born in the town of Wheatfield, Niagara County, N. Y., April 13, 1884, studied at Fort Wayne, and graduated from St. Louis in 1908. On Sept. 6, 1908, he was ordained and installed as pastor of St. Paul's Church at Mount Clemens, Mich., where he served until 1919. His other pastorates were at Saint John's in Orchard Park, N. Y. (two years), at Trinity in Millstadt, Ill. (seven years), at New Haven, Ind. (eight years), where he resigned in August, 1935, because of ill health and moved to St. Johnsburg, N. Y.

On Oct. 25, 1908, he married Miss Alma Schmidt at Altamont, Ill. They had one daughter. His wife was summoned to her eternal rest in 1918. On Aug. 7, 1921, he married Miss Concordia Scheifler at

Millstadt, Ill. God blessed this union with four children.

The funeral was held at St. John's Church in St. Johnsburg, N. Y., on Nov. 20, 1945. The undersigned preached on a favorite text of the departed, 1 Tim. 1:15. Brethren in the ministry from the Niagara Circuit served as pallbearers. His body is resting in the congregation's cemetery.

Mourning his departure are his widow, four daughters, a son, his mother, two brothers, a granddaughter, and other relatives and friends. J. W. THIEMECKE

The Rev. Carl W. Schoenow, pastor emeritus (d. Nov. 23, 1945), born Dec. 19, 1870, in Prenzlau, Germany, came with his parents to this country in 1881 and settled in Altamont, Ill. He attended Concordia Seminary, Springfield, 1887—1893, and did graduate work in Chicago. He served the following parishes in Michigan: Fredonia, Marion Springs, Saginaw, Sherman Township in St. Joseph County, Belknap, and Hawks, and finally, 1919—40, Frankentrost. Because of illness he resigned five years ago and made his home in Saginaw. Funeral services were conducted in Frankentrost on Nov. 26, 1945. The Rev. Emil Voss officiated at the home; the Rev. Andrew Zeile, President of the Michigan District, preached in English on 2 Tim. 1: 6-12; the undersigned, in German on John 5:24.

The departed kept up his spiritual and intellectual interests to the last. He spoke a beautiful and fluent German, had a good command of the Latin language, still read his Hebrew Old Testament on the day of his death. He was especially interested in church history. Many pastors will remember him as a forthright, stimulating, and kind friend.

He is survived by his wife, nee Wilhelmine Starke of Marion Springs, Mich., one son, the Rev. Wm. Schoenow of Richville, four daughters, and eleven grandchildren. HENRY C. MILLER

DEATH NOTICE

The Rev. Charles A. Kaumeyer, pastor emeritus of Emanuel Lutheran Church, Lancaster, Ohio, died Sunday evening, Dec. 2, 1945. Burial Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 5. W. F. DOCTER

New Publications

Unless otherwise noted, all publications reviewed in the "Lutheran Witness" may be secured from or through Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis 18, Mo.

Prayer Fellowship. By Theodore Graebner. 32 pp., 5"×7¼". Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis. 15 cents.

Not an exhaustive study of the subject by any means, but an examination of the Scripture background and the systematic presentation of the doctrine of our Church concerning prayer fellowship. The conference at whose request the paper was written thought well enough of it to recommend its publication, and, with all the usual formalities observed, Concordia Publishing House now submits the little essay with its usual fine typography. An habitual averseness to troubling a colleague with a request for a review accounts for this somewhat informal announcement. Pertinent extracts from earlier discussions of the fellowship question and from textual studies submitted to our Synod in 1935 are part of the presentation. There are original contributions to the discussion of joint prayer in the Gospels and in Acts, and on the subject of offense. G.

Concordia Bible Student. Edited by Rev. A. C. Mueller under the auspices of the Board for Parish Education of the Ev. Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States. Prepared by Rev. J. M. Weidenschilling, S. T. D. Vol. 35, January, 1946, No. 1. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

This is the first number for 1946 of the *Concordia Bible Student,* a quarterly published in the interest of a wider dissemination of Bible knowledge. As its title indicates, it deals with the subject of prayer. There are thirteen lessons for the first thirteen weeks of the year. In these lessons the following subjects are treated: The Christian Prays; Why Christians Pray; The Great Power of Prayer; A Christian Never Prays in Vain; The Christian Prays with His Heart and Lips; Prayers That Are Acceptable to God; What Christians Say in Their Prayers; How Often Christians Pray; Where a Christian Prays; The Lord's Prayer; The Lord's Prayer (continued); The Psalter the Best Prayer Book. There are a number of attractive illustrations. To each lesson are added review questions and subjects for research work. The work is well done. The author has made expert use of the prayers of the Bible, *e. g.,* the Psalms and the Lord's Prayer. Our pastors and teachers will find his historical references of real value. We expect the study of these lessons to increase the prayer life in our congregations. And that will be followed by the blessings which God has promised. S.

The Lutheran Annual. 1946. Editor: O. A. Dorn. Statistical Editor: Armin Schroeder. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. 225 pages. 25 cents.

Amerikanischer Kalender fuer deutsche Lutheraner auf das Jahr 1946. Editor: J. T. Mueller. Statistical Editor: Armin Schroeder. 225 pages. 25 cents.

It will not be necessary to say much concerning these old friends of ours. Most of our readers, we may be sure of that, are acquainted with these publications. If there is one to whom the *Annual* is a stranger, he ought by all means obtain this copy. He will be surprised at the genuine bargain: almost a world of valuable facts for the small sum of 25 cents. Besides the usual information which is offered by any calendar, there is such an abundance of other worth-while items as defy even brief mention. The booklet will prove especially valuable to those who travel or change their place of residence. Young people who attend universities or colleges and those in the armed forces should have a copy. The direction, information, and advice here offered will be a very godsend to one away from home. It would be well also for all our people to acquire the habit of consulting their *Annual* at frequent intervals. Some of us do that daily. S.

Today's Youth — Tomorrow's Church. (Mimeographed.) Study leaflet of the Lutheran Woman's League, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis. 10 cents.

The pastor looks at his calendar and is startled by the discovery that the ladies' aid meeting is tomorrow afternoon. What shall his contribution be? He might do worse than accepting the suggestion offered by this contribution to the L. W. L. to the cause of adult education. Better still, let the literary guild of the ladies' aid subscribe to the series. G.

Miscellaneous

Ordinations and Installations

(Authorized by the Proper Officials)

CANDIDATE

Ordained and Installed:

Eugene R. Bertermann as assistant pastor in Ascension Congregation, St. Louis, Mo., by E. H. Bertermann, Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22.

PASTORS

Commissioned:

W. J. Wiltenburg, Jr., as institutional missionary for Boston, Mass., and outlying areas by Paul W. Brauer, Nov. 13.

H. J. Eggold, Jr., as missionary in Fort Wayne, Ind. (Northside Mission), by J. H. Meyer, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

Installed:

Elmer Neunaber in Trinity Congregation, Staples, Minn., by A. J. H. Frinke, 20. Sun. p. Tr., Oct. 14.

Otto Marschke in St. Martin's Congregation near Fort Wayne, Ind., by Walter Klausing, 23. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 4.

G. Meyr in St. John's Congregation, Random Lake (Sherman Center), Wis., by Gustav Kaniess, 23. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 4.

Ralph H. Young in First Congregation, Chickasha, Okla., by A. C. Dubberstein, 23. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 4.

R. B. Hamp in Immanuel Congregation, Tomahawk, Alta., Can., by A. H. Raduenz, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

Lothar E. Kleinhans as associate pastor in St. Peter's Congregation, East Detroit, Mich., by W. O. Leitz, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

E. G. Meseke in Trinity Congregation, Worden, Ill., by J. W. Hennig, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

Lorman M. Petersen in Trinity Congregation, Peoria, Ill., by R. Brenner, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

Gerhardt Rusch in Zion Congregation, Stillwater, Okla., by W. A. Haefker, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

A. O. Bleeke in St. John's Congregation, Storm Lake, Iowa, by F. W. E. Wolter, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

A. L. Enders in St. Paul's Congregation, Chilliwack, B. C., Can., by C. F. Baase, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Gustav Haase in Christ Congregation, Nicols, Minn., by Emil Ulbricht, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

J. Ohlinger in Zion Congregation, Wetaskiwin, Alta., Can., by F. Ulmer, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Robert J. Riedel as assistant pastor in St. Mark's Congregation, Brooklyn, N. Y., by F. T. Schroeder, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Eugene O. Smith in First Congregation, Venice, Calif., by Pres. Walter F. Troeger, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

W. W. Soeldner in Immanuel Congregation, Boonville, Mo., by Prof. L. W. Spitz, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

V. J. Zuberbier in St. John's Congregation, Auburndale, Wis., by Alvin H. Moog, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Carl J. Sangers in St. John's Congregation near Rensselaer, Ind., by Pres. W. F. Lichtsinn, Nov. 21.

H. W. E. Buss in Zion Congregation, Bellefont, Kans., by Theo. H. Mueller, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Allen Hoff in Zion Congregation, in Immanuel Congregation, and in St. John's Congregation near Sebeka, Minn., by F. H. Mueller, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Elmer W. Krause in Bethesda Congregation,

Marion, and in Zion Congregation, Hurley, S. Dak., by Paul H. Brill, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Otto F. Krause in St. Paul's Congregation, Fairmont, Minn., by O. H. Zemke, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Theo. Wieting in Immanuel Congregation, Osmond, Nebr., by Theo. Stolp, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

TEACHERS

Candidate

Wilmer Hornbostel in Immanuel Congregation, St. Louis, Mo., by John Oppliger, 13. Sun. p. Tr., Aug. 26.

Gerhardt Bode in Christ Congregation, Norfolk, Nebr., by Theo. Harms, 17. Sun. p. Tr., Sept. 23.

Walter P. Timm in St. John's Congregation, Adrian, Mich., by E. F. Manske, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

M. H. Wegehaupt in St. Mark's Congregation, Steeleville, Ill., by J. Mueller, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

A. F. H. Winterstein in St. Paul's Congregation, Strasburg, Ill., by L. Stuebe, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Walter M. Mueller in Concordia Congregation, Frohna, Mo., by G. W. Hafner, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Arthur E. Christian in Our Savior Congregation, Chicago, Ill., by D. C. Hennig, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Dedication

Overland, Mo. (Elmer Schwartzkopf). The new church of Peace Congregation, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

Anniversaries

Seward, Nebr., Immanuel Congregation (H. C. Marting), the 75th, 12. Sun. p. Tr., Aug. 19.

Appleton City, Mo., Trinity Congregation (A. Rohlfing), the 75th, 20. Sun. p. Tr., Oct. 14.

Hanceville, Ala., Trinity Congregation (R. E. Hasz), the 60th, 22. Sun. p. Tr., Oct. 28.

Garber, Okla., Immanuel Congregation (M. A. Baumann), the 45th, 22. Sun. p. Tr., Oct. 28.

Kingston, N. Y., Immanuel Congregation (E. L. Witte), the 75th, 23. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 4.

Van Nuys, Calif., First Congregation (A. C. Mueller), the 25th, 23. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 4.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Trinity Congregation (Paul J. Hartenberger), the 50th, 23. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 4.

Town Scott (Kewaskum), Wis., Immanuel Congregation (Gustav Kaniess), the 75th, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

Crystal Lake, Ill., Immanuel Congregation (G. A. Gehrs), the 75th, 24. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 11.

Humberstone, Ont., Can., St. Peter's Congregation (J. F. Schutt), the 70th, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Lester Prairie, Minn., St. Paul's Congregation (R. A. Ritz), the 40th, 25. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 18.

Chicago, Ill., Zion Congregation (C. L. Abel), the 75th, 26. Sun. p. Tr., Nov. 25.

Result of Election

Rev. W. C. Berner of Los Angeles, Calif., has been elected Executive Secretary of the Board for Parish Education. — L. J. DIERKER, *Secretary*.

Acceptance of Call

Mr. E. C. Huebschmann has accepted the call to the chair of Mathematics and Science at Concordia College, Austin, Tex. — BOARD OF CONTROL, F. H. STELZER, *Executive Secretary*.

Candidate Nominated by Congregation

Additional for German and Latin at St. Paul's College, Concordia, Mo.

Rev. E. L. Lueker, Richmond Heights: Zion, St. Louis, Mo.

BOARD OF CONTROL, WM. O. SCHMIDT, *Secy*.

Announcements

Rev. Paul Schumm, now also a member of the District Board of Directors, has resigned as Visitor. *Rev. George Grabarkewitz* has been appointed as Visitor of Circuit 3 of the West Park Region Conference.

To replace Rev. Otto Krause, who has accepted a call into another circuit, *Rev. Carl J. Gundermann* has been appointed as Visitor of Circuit 1 of the South Central Conference. — ROBT. G. HEYNE, *President, Minnesota District*.

Wanted

Congregations wishing to dispose of their *German hymnals* by sale or otherwise please write REV. H. TREIT, 1033 Victoria Ave., Regina, Sask., Can.

Teacher Placement Report

On Nov. 21, 1945, eleven men and two women graduates became eligible for teaching positions. The following graduates were assigned calls and teaching positions respectively by a special committee of the College of Presidents on Nov. 1: Raymond Bauer, Toledo; Roland Eggerding, Racine, Wis. (high school); Milton Eggers, Chicago; James Engel, River Forest; Ralph Fiedler, San Francisco; Armin Grams, Chicago; Richard Keb, Milwaukee; Melvin Luebke, undecided; Paul Schwarting, undecided; Frederick Trinklein, Alva, Okla.; Vernon Wilharm, Manistee, Mich.; Norma Mueller, Park Ridge, Ill.; Esther Seegert, Elmhurst, Ill. — ALBERT V. MAURER, *Chairman, Teacher Placement*, River Forest, Ill.

November Contributions Sent Direct to the Treasurer

(Because of their great number Army and Navy receipts and Peace Thankoffering receipts will not be *publicly* acknowledged)

Per L. J. Rupprecht, Sundry Donors, in Memory of Sidonia Schieferdecker, S. Am. Missions, $12.00. Pfc. R. R. Hebard, Missions, 5.00. Paul M. Kuehn, Lutheran Hour, 50.00, for Student, St. Louis Seminary, 50.00. N. N., Foreign Missions, 250.00. Bruce Bartholomew in Memory of Rev. Robt. Trautmann, Nigerian Missions, 30.00. Prof. M. S. Sommer, Wheat Ridge Sanatorium, 5.00, Foreign Missions 5.00, Negro Missions 5.00, St. Louis City Missions 5.00, Lutheran Institute for the Deaf 5.00, Lutheran Children's Friend Society 5.00. N. N., Grand Rapids, Mich., Missions, 7.00. Mr. and Mrs. A. Kastner, Needy in Germany, 50.00. Per Herbert M. Zorn from A. L. Graebner Dormitory of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in Memory of Rev. R. G. Trautmann, African Missions, 12.00. Per Adolph Moesch, Several Families, Emergency Planning Council, 125.00. Per M. S. Sommer, Mrs. Anna E. Hamilton, Chaplains' Work in Starving Germany, 5.00. Per Walter A. Zinn, Magdalena Suder, Home Missions, 200.00, Foreign Missions 200.00, European Missions 200.00, Building Fund 200.00. Per Mrs. Reka Tammen in Memory of Helen Tammen, Lutheran Hour, from Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tornow 2.00, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Tornow 1.00, Mr. and Mrs. Helmuth Stern 1.00, Mr. and Mrs. George Tammen 2.00. F. A. Knudtson, European Relief, 18.00. X. Y., Columbus, O., Starving People in Germany, 10.00. N. N., Springfield, Ill., Church in Europe, 1.00. Mr. and Mrs. Reinhold Banek, Nigerian Missions, 225.00, European Relief 275.00. Per Rev. F. G. Kuehnert via Rev. G. Hinnenthal in Memory of Rev. J. H. Schnitker, Pension Contingent Fund, 47.00. Per Mrs. Bertha Herzog, Sundry Donors, in Memory of C. F. Herzog, Negro Missions, 5.00. A Lutheran, Foreign Missions, 25.00, Budget Treasury 15.00. Rev. and Mrs. John Schinnerer, War Orphans, 50.00. Lavona M. and C. H. Bargfrede, Mission Work Overseas, 10.00. Thomas Christianson, Orphans and Widows in Germany, 100.00. Per Mrs. H. A. Gehrs from Mrs. Minna Gehrs and Family in Memory of John S. Wuepper, Lutheran Hour, 15.00. Per Mrs. Auguste Hinrichs, Sundry Donors, in Memory of Christ Hinrichs, Needy in Germany, 6.00. Per Rev. C. E. Kasper from Mrs. Peterson, European Relief, 5.00. Per CPH: Mrs. E. Schumacher, Home Missions, 1.00. Per Foreign Mission Office: Dorothy Meier, Mission, Kunming, China, 5.00; Trinity Luth. S. S., Lincoln, Nebr., Student S. George, India, 10.00; Mrs. Dora Grace, Evangelist, India, 3.00; Holy Cross Luth. Women's Missionary League, St. Louis, Mo., Church Extension Fund in China, 45.00; Mrs. Margaret Tessner, India Missions, 5.00; St. Paul's Luth. S. S., Albion, Mich., Orphanage, China, 10.00; Zion Church Deborah Soc., Oklahoma City, Okla., Student, India, 75.00; Lutheran Altenheim Family in Memory of Mrs. Johanna Stoll, Missions in China, 2.00; Luth. Foreign Missions Ladies' Aid Soc., St. Louis, Mo., Christmas Gifts for Missionaries, 15.00; Lydia Sewing Circle, Staunton, Ill., Christmas Box, India, 25.00; Mr. and Mrs. John Perko, Orphanage, China, 20.00.

Legacies and Bequests: Emma C. Sternberg $1,360.00. David W. Lothman 7,005.87. Bertha L. Guske 7,990.10.

W. H. SCHLUETER, Treas.

Changes of Address

Rev. Donovan A. Bakalyar, 6 Manor Lodge, Fort William, Ont., Can.

Prof. G. Chr. Barth, 1301 Concordia Ct., Springfield, Ill.

Rev. A. F. Beawer, 210 N. Ninth Ave., Caldwell, Idaho

Rev. Eugene R. Bertermann, 7527A Comfort Ave., Maplewood 17, Mo.

Office: 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis 18, Mo.

Rev. J. Brandt, 800 S. Cedar St., Marshfield, Wis.

Rev. Edwin A. Breiholz, Wellman, Iowa

Rev. Edwin W. David, 1023 N. Muscatel Ave., San Gabriel, Calif.

Rev. A. F. Droegemueller, 806 S. Hutchins St., Bryan, Tex.

Rev. A. L. Enders, Chilliwack, B. C., Can.

Rev. W. C. Fleischer, *c. r. m.*, 441 E. Monterey Ave., Pomona, Calif.

Rev. R. H. Goetjen, Box 1011, Port Alberni, B. C., Can.

Rev. Wm. Graumann, 7507 McGee St., Kansas City 5, Mo.

Rev. Jos. Hannewald, 4410 Glenmore Ave., Baltimore 6, Md.

Rev. Arthur Hawlicheck, 73 Greene St., Pawtucket, R. I.

Rev. F. W. Horstmann, R. 2, Holgate, Ohio

Rev. Weert J. Janssen, 419½ N. Wells St., Renton, Wash.

Rev. Eldor P. Kuehnert, 1900 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh, N. C.

Rev. W. E. Laetsch, 427 S. Lafayette, Chanute, Kans.

Rev. Robert Leege, Box 442, Cambridge, Nebr.

Rev. Jos. Mann, Duval, Sask., Can.

Rev. E. C. Manns, 1018 Lunalilo St., Honolulu 34, T. H.

Rev. V. L. Meyer, 408 Resseguie St., Boise, Idaho

Rev. A. F. Miller, 405 Fourth Ave. W, Calgary, Alta., Can.

Rev. H. F. Peckman, Vadakangulam, Tinnevelly Dist., South India

Rev. Carl J. Pritz, *em.*, 2162 E. Johns Ave., Decatur 44, Ill.

Rev. J. H. Rupprecht, 8004 Decker Ave., Cleveland 3, Ohio

Rev. Gerhardt O. Rusch, 504 Knoblock St., Stillwater, Okla.

Rev. Martin Schabacker, Jr., 804 G Ave., Central City, Nebr.

Rev. O. W. Schaefer, 2212 W. Clarke St., Milwaukee 6, Wis.

Rev. W. H. Tensmeyer, 1744 South St., Burlington, Iowa

Rev. Theo. Wieting, Box 251, Osmond, Nebr.

Carl Burger, Immanuel Lutheran School, Third and Illinois St., Elmhurst, Ill.

A. E. Christian, Our Savior Lutheran School, Neva and Cornelia Aves., Chicago 34, Ill.

Werner Dierks, 6124 Cornelia, Chicago 34, Ill.

John E. Endorf, 700 E. Columbia St., Evansville, Ind.

E. F. Fiebig, 1012 E. McKinnie St., Fort Wayne 5, Ind.

H. L. Franzen, 204 Wisconsin, Peoria 4, Ill.

Harold Franzen, 127 S. Philadelphia, Anaheim, Calif.

Wilbert C. Marten, 2645 N. 15th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Walter M. Mueller, Frohna, Mo.

A. F. H. Winterstein, Strasburg, Ill.

Arthur F. Zehe, R. 3, Box 17A, Shelton, Wash.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Because the paper situation is still critical, it remains necessary to discontinue subscriptions to all of our periodicals with the last number paid for under the subscription agreement. Therefore renew your subscription promptly. Send all remittances to Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis 18, Mo.

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

Official Organ of the Ev. Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States

Published by Concordia Publishing House

3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis 18, Mo.

All articles intended for publication in the paper should be addressed to Prof. M. S. Sommer, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo.

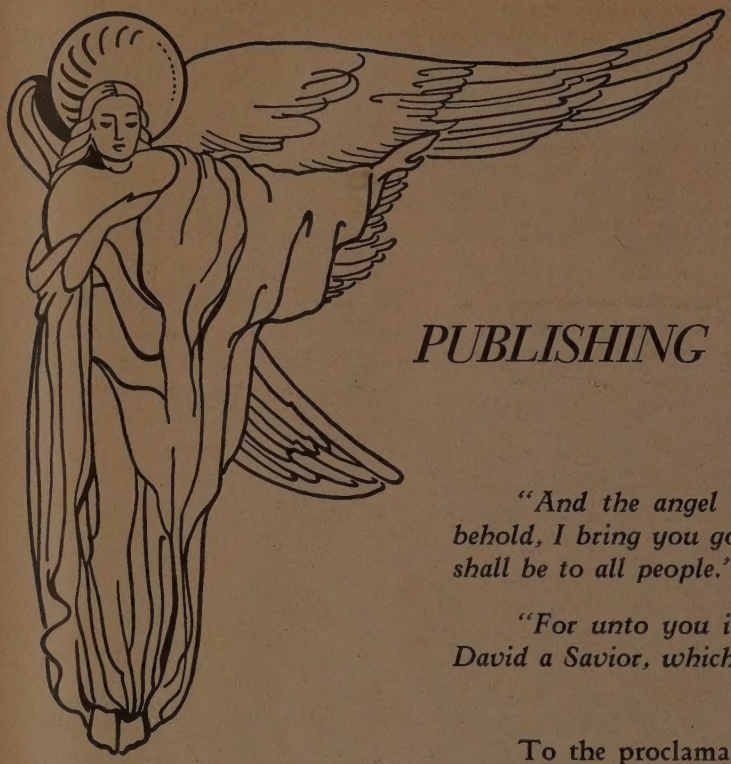
All official announcements, acknowledgments, notices, also books for review, should reach Prof. Theodore Graebner, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo., on the Monday of the week preceding date of issue.

All church news should be sent to Prof. George V. Schick, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo.

All obituaries should be sent to Prof. W. G. Polack, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo.

All reports of ordinations, installations, dedications, and jubilees should be sent to the Statistical Bureau, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis 18, Mo.

Photographs are sent at the owner's risk. For returning these to sender, arrangements must be made before they are mailed to the editorial office, 801 De Mun Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo



PUBLISHING THE GOOD TIDINGS

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:10, 11

To the proclamation of these good tidings . . . of the grace of God through Jesus Christ, our Lord . . . Concordia Publishing House is happy to rededicate itself at this happy anniversary of our Savior's birth.

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